

NATIONAL CANNERS ASSOCIATION



Information Letter



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CONTENTS

	Page
Rate case hearing postponed	2045
Italian tomato crop lower	2045
Bean, corn, and tomato crop forecasts	2045
Separate exports statistics on canned grapefruit planned	2048
Drouth reduces bean crop prospects	2048
Forecast of cucumbers for pickles	2049
Condition of lima beans and beets	2049
Increase in kraut cabbage forecast	2050
Weather conditions	2051
Business conditions	2052
Truck crop markets	2052

Rate Case Hearing Postponed

The hearing on the Consolidated Southwestern Rate Case, set for Washington, D. C., on September 22, has been postponed until November 11. This is the case involving the classification of canned foods according to value for rate-making purposes.

Italian Tomato Crop Lower

According to a cable from the American commercial attache at Rome, tomatoes are not so plentiful as last year in Italy and canning is commencing with great uncertainty as to trend on American markets. British buyers evidently assume that American orders are lacking, and are offering impossible prices.

Bean, Corn, and Tomato Crop Forecasts

Forecasts of the production of snap beans, sweet corn and tomatoes for manufacture, based upon the condition of these crops on September 1, have been issued by the Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

SNAP BEANS

The forecast of production of snap beans for canning or manufacture, based upon condition on September 1, is 78,700 tons, compared with a production of 90,430 tons last year. This forecast is only 1,150 tons below the forecast of 79,850 tons on August 15. The slight decrease is due chiefly to lower yields per

acre in Michigan and Wisconsin. Other States show little or no change from the August 15 forecast of probable production.

The September 1 forecast of production is 13 per cent below production last year, but is considerably larger than the five-year average production for the period 1924-1928, due to a rapid expansion of acreage during the past two seasons. The indicated yield per acre in 1930 is one-fourth below the average yield in 1929 and is one-third smaller than the five-year average yield during 1924-1928. It is the lowest yield per acre on record since official estimates were started in 1918.

State	Acreage		Production	
	1929 Acres	1930 Acres	1929 Tons	1930 Tons
Maine	1,200	1,420	2,720	3,980
New York	8,800	11,270	14,700	15,520
Pennsylvania	8,720	8,550	8,810	2,680
Indiana	3,500	3,710	3,500	2,230
Michigan	5,300	3,900	4,770	4,190
Wisconsin	7,400	8,580	9,620	8,580
Delaware	2,040	2,550	2,650	1,790
Maryland	8,400	9,740	14,280	6,820
South Carolina	870	830	1,300	1,160
Tennessee	2,000	2,400	2,400	2,400
Mississippi	1,860	2,640	1,860	2,640
Arkansas	2,240	2,510	2,460	1,260
Louisiana	2,280	3,200	2,280	3,200
Colorado	2,300	2,090	6,900	5,850
Utah	1,280	1,520	2,360	3,850
Washington	820	940	2,160	2,100
Oregon	930	880	2,790	2,640
California	750	810	3,000	3,820
Other states a	5,300	6,630	6,360	3,900
U. S. total	81,000	71,150	90,480	78,780

a "Other states" include Alabama, Georgia, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, Oklahoma, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Wyoming.

TOMATOES

Based upon condition of the crop on September 1, the forecast of production of tomatoes for canning or manufacture, is 1,401,180 tons, compared with the forecast of 1,366,330 tons on August 15 and with a production of 1,426,170 tons last year. Local showers and rains through sections of Indiana, Ohio, New Jersey and Arkansas have improved prospects somewhat since the middle of August. Condition of the crop in California remains favorable, with prospective production considerably larger than that of 1929. Some further deterioration, however, has taken place in New York, Pennsylvania and Illinois, where lack of moisture and dry rot have reduced yields. In other drouth stricken areas, including Maryland, Delaware, Kentucky, Tennessee and Missouri, further deterioration has been prevented by cooler temperatures and scattered showers.

The September 1 forecast of production is 2 per cent below production in 1929, but is one-sixth larger than the five-year average production during the period 1924-1928. The estimate of planted acreage in 1930 exceeds the acreage grown in 1929 by 22 per cent, and is 27 per cent larger than the average acreage for the five-year period, 1924-1928. The indicated yield per acre is nearly 20 per cent less than the yield in 1929, and is about 10 per cent below the five-year average yield during the period 1924-1928.

Stat.	Acreage		Condition				Production	
	1929 Acres	1930 Acres	Sept. 1.		Sept. 1.			
			1929 Per cent	1930 Per cent	1929 Tons	1930 Tons		
New York	13,800	15,500	79	53	85,600	89,730		
New Jersey	33,000	40,000	78	76	214,500	200,000		
Pennsylvania	3,420	4,280	75	46	13,600	8,900		
Ohio	10,930	12,600	80	74	52,500	65,710		
Indiana	39,840	51,350	71	69	251,350	301,110		
Illinois	5,440	6,310	72	50	20,070	17,640		
Michigan	1,060	2,410	70	54	8,900	8,920		
Iowa	4,570	6,400	79	71	25,140	24,520		
Missouri	20,840	28,900	59	46	80,730	52,020		
Delaware	18,500	14,180	85	57	88,850	46,790		
Maryland	27,500	28,880	80	52	140,250	77,970		
Virginia	6,840	7,300	68	32	25,900	18,300		
Kentucky	6,820	8,930	73	42	28,000	17,860		
Tennessee	9,200	11,590	68	43	23,000	19,700		
Arkansas	22,600	29,380	55	46	61,020	61,700		
Colorado	1,920	2,210	70	54	16,700	16,800		
Utah	6,180	7,720	78	50	56,860	32,500		
California	41,650	44,210	85	90	258,420	231,350		
Other states a	4,480	6,050	66	54	15,230	15,120		
Total or average..	294,470	350,410	78.2	62.9	1,426,170	1,401,180		

a "Other states" include Alabama, Connecticut, Idaho, Kansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Carolina, Texas, Washington, West Virginia, Wisconsin.

SWEET CORN

The September 1 forecast of production of sweet corn for canning or manufacture, based upon condition of the crop on that date, is 576,700 tons compared with the forecast of 589,500 tons on August 15, and with a production of 703,600 tons last year. Further reductions in probable yields in Iowa, Illinois, Ohio, Michigan, New York, Pennsylvania and Delaware have occurred since the report of August 15. These reductions, however, have been offset to some extent by the higher yields expected in Minnesota, Indiana and the New England States.

The September 1 forecast of production is 18 per cent less than production in 1929, and is 14 per cent below the five-year average production for the period 1924-1928. The estimate of planted acreage in 1930 is 11 per cent larger than the acreage grown in 1929 and more than one-fourth larger than the average acreage during the five-year period, 1924-1928. The indicated

yield is the lowest on record since official estimates were started in 1918. Though no information is yet available on the number of cases packed per ton this year, it will probably run below average in the drouth stricken areas.

State	Acreage		Condition		Production	
	1929	1930	Sept. 1,	Sept. 1,	1929	1930
			1929	1930	Per cent	Per cent
Acres	Acres	Acres	Per cent	Per cent	Tons	Tons
Maine	14,850	13,440	74	94	16,000	47,940
New Hampshire	1,320	1,110	73	..	3,300	3,060
Vermont	3,370	2,200	73	55	6,200	6,160
New York	24,600	27,060	73	42	56,000	29,770
Pennsylvania	6,000	6,000	50	15	6,000	2,400
Ohio	31,000	24,410	68	24	62,000	24,080
Indiana	88,500	45,250	64	39	50,000	61,930
Illinois	64,000	72,320	76	83	134,400	198,480
Michigan	6,400	10,300	61	23	6,100	6,180
Wisconsin	11,600	13,340	72	57	21,400	20,010
Minnesota	43,900	52,680	67	76	105,400	121,160
Iowa	32,000	34,800	82	57	130,000	98,250
Nebraska	5,740	7,400	80	32	10,000	11,100
Delaware	3,800	5,700	60	40	5,800	3,700
Maryland	44,000	46,200	52	15	61,800	18,300
Tennessee	3,400	3,400	77	78	6,800	6,100
Other states ^b	3,250	4,100	78	77	7,500	8,740
Total or average..	356,830	398,600	69.2	50.3	783,600	576,700

^a Revised.

^b "Other states" include Colorado, Idaho, Kentucky, Missouri, Montana, South Dakota, Utah, Washington, Wyoming.

Separate Exports Statistics on Canned Grapefruit Planned

Up until the present time canned grapefruit has been included in the export statistics under the classification "Other canned fruit." In view of the increasing exports of this product and the value to the trade of export figures, the Department of Commerce has decided to show canned grapefruit separately in the export statistics beginning with January, 1931.

Drouth Reduces Bean Crop Prospects

As a result of the August drouth prospects for field beans in Michigan and New York have been reduced about one-third or nearly three million bushels, resulting in a forecast for the country as a whole of 19,458,000 bushels, or 1 per cent less than production last year. The average yield per acre is expected to be lower than in any year since 1917, according to the September crop report of the Department of Agriculture, but, as a record acreage was planted, the crop is still expected to be larger than in any season except 1925 and 1929. The crop is maturing earlier than usual, especially in the eastern pea bean states, and harvesting operations have made exceptional progress. The portion of the crop threshed to date is showing a low package and low moisture content.

The decline during the past month was mainly confined to the eastern pea bean states, where extreme heat from July 15 to August 10, accompanied by severe drouth, blasted much of the bloom and caused poor setting and filling of pods. Some fields are so poor that the beans will not be harvested. The total bean production of Michigan and New York, which raise most of the pea beans, is expected to be about 6,100,000 bushels or about 827,000 less than in 1929, but this will be partly offset by increased production of small whites in California and elsewhere. The yield of red kidney beans in the eastern states is slightly better than that of white varieties.

The production outlook for great northern beans has improved slightly and is now close to last year's production. Prospects for pintos have increased in Colorado but declined in New Mexico, and are now about 200,000 bushels short of last year's big crop of pintos.

California beans show no change from the prospect of about 6,000,000 bushels reported last month, which exceeds last year's California crop by about 1,000,000 bushels.

Forecast of Cucumbers for Pickles

The production of cucumbers for pickles, based on condition on September 1, is estimated by the Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates at 4,942,000 bushels, as compared with 3,265,000 in 1929. The following table furnishes comparisons of the acreage, condition and production in 1929 and 1930:

State	Acreage		Condition				Production
	Sept. 1.		Sept. 1.	Sept. 1.	Sept. 1.	Sept. 1.	
	1929	1930	1929	1930	1929	1930	
	Acres	Acres	Per cent	Per cent	Bushels	Bushels	
Massachusetts	880	680	..	85	83,000	82,000	
New York	830	900	50	58	28,000	36,000	
Ohio	1,730	3,110	55	70	78,000	110,000	
Indiana	9,000	12,960	40	75	315,000	318,000	
Illinois	1,250	1,400	50	50	44,000	49,000	
Michigan	21,000	29,820	51	65	680,000	1,108,000	
Wisconsin	11,310	16,960	46	70	475,000	848,000	
Minnesota	3,500	4,550	40	62	84,000	135,000	
Iowa	1,750	3,150	50	55	84,000	94,000	
Missouri	1,260	1,280	30	30	28,000	26,000	
Louisiana	980	1,780	..	50	108,000	178,000	
Colorado	2,000	3,100	90	87	230,000	341,000	
Washington	310	610	60	75	77,000	127,000	
California	2,710	3,500	83	87	632,000	725,000	
Other states ^a	6,380	8,500	66	52	378,000	510,000	
Total or average	64,700	92,280	58.5	66.9	3,265,000	4,942,000	

^a "Other states" include Connecticut, Delaware, Kentucky, Maryland, Mississippi, Nebraska, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Wyoming.

Condition of Lima Beans and Beets

Continuation of the hot, dry weather during August caused a decline in condition of 15.5 points in lima beans since August

1. Condition of the crop on September 1 was 52.8 per cent of normal compared with 68.3 per cent on August 1. The crop has received only light, scattered showers throughout the producing areas of Delaware, Maryland, New Jersey, Virginia and Michigan.

Condition of beets on September 1 is estimated as 71 per cent of normal compared with 81.1 per cent on August 1. Damage from drouth and heat is reported from nearly all eastern areas. Recent rains are expected to improve the later plantings somewhat.

The following table, from the report of the Division of Crop and Livestock Estimates, shows the condition of lima beans and beets on August 1 and September 1:

State	Lima beans		Beets	
	Aug. 1, 1930	Sept. 1, 1930	Aug. 1, 1930	Sept. 1, 1930
	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent	Per cent
Colorado	..	..	90	90
Delaware	78	58	..	..
Indiana	..	..	75	60
Maryland	54	38	..	..
Michigan	68	60	70	65
Minnesota	65	74	..	..
New Jersey	81	65	85	88
New York	..	..	85	87
Ohio	80	29	40	35
Oregon	..	..	80	72
Utah	86	70	90	85
Virginia	55	46	..	..
Washington	..	..	92	90
Wisconsin	..	..	79	66
Other states a	73	55	84	82
U. S. average	68.3	52.8	81.1	71.0

a "Other states" for Lima beans include Colorado, Indiana, New York, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Wisconsin; for beets, Delaware, Illinois, Maryland, Minnesota, Mississippi, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Virginia.

Increase in Kraut Cabbage Forecast

The September 1 forecast of production of cabbage for kraut, based upon condition of the crop on that date, is 144,900 tons compared with a production of 140,300 tons in 1929, or an increase of 3 per cent over that of last year. On an acreage about one-fifth larger than that grown in 1929, the indicated yield per acre is only 7.1 tons compared with 8.3 tons last year and with a five-year average yield of 10.4 tons for the period 1924-1928. With the exception of 1919, the indicated yield is the lowest on record dating back to 1918.

The condition of the crop declined 20 points during the month of August, and on September 1 was placed at 59.8 per cent of normal compared with 74 per cent a year ago and with a 10-year average of 76.9 per cent on September 1. Deterioration of the crop since August 1 has been caused by the exten-

sion of the drouth area northward into New York, Michigan and parts of Wisconsin. As a result of the heat and drouth, cabbage is heading small.

State	Acreage		Condition		Production	
	1929		Sept. 1		1929	
	Acres	Acres	Per cent	Per cent	Tons	Tons
New York	4,128	5,150	75	85	30,100	40,200
Ohio	3,700	2,862	78	63	22,290	18,870
Indiana	1,080	1,104	70	82	8,300	9,370
Illinois	870	881	65	68	5,000	5,300
Michigan	1,768	2,123	70	51	10,700	12,370
Wisconsin	3,020	4,228	75	65	24,200	32,170
Minnesota	560	550	73	60	4,000	4,870
Colorado	560	525	77	75	3,000	6,070
Washington	320	320	75	75	2,000	2,970
Other states	2,360	2,530	72	49	17,000	15,700
Total	16,910	20,498	74.0	55.8	146,300	144,960

Weather Conditions

The week ended September 9, according to the U. S. Weather Bureau, was generally warm over the southern half of the country, the maximum temperature reaching 100 degrees locally in southwestern Kansas, north-central Texas, and western Arkansas. Over the northern States about normal warmth prevailed, some sections reporting maximum temperatures for the week in the 70's. Rainfall was rather irregularly distributed, but was much more generous and widespread than in recent weeks.

Good rains were general over practically all of Kansas and most parts of Nebraska and South Dakota. Missouri had the most favorable weather in many weeks. There were substantial to heavy rains over much the greater portion of the State.

Good rains occurred also in much of southern Illinois. Only a few areas in this State are not now fairly well or well provided with moisture, and the drought is broken in the southwest. Local showers were rather general also over Indiana, but Ohio has been only partly relieved. West-central Wisconsin and southern Minnesota had very beneficial rains. The drought has been largely relieved also in the south Atlantic Coast area from North Carolina to Georgia and Florida, while showers were helpful in the extreme lower Mississippi Valley.

In the severely droughty sections, much of Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Kentucky, parts of Tennessee, Michigan, and most of Iowa were still largely unrelieved at the close of the week and rainfall was badly needed in nearly all sections. About one-third of Texas had effective showers, and rain was fairly general in Oklahoma at the close of the week, but more is generally needed in these States. North Dakota

also needs more rain, though scattered amounts were helpful, while the last part of the week brought rather good showers to much of Montana.

Business Conditions

Business activity during the week ended September 6, 1930, as measured by bank debits outside New York City, registered a slight increase over the preceding week but declined from the corresponding period of a year ago.

Bank loans and discounts showed but slight change from the level of the previous week but were lower than during the week ended September 7, 1929.

Interest rates for call money recorded an increase over the rates of a week ago, while time money rates remained unchanged. Both rates were considerably lower than last year. Business failures during the past week were less numerous than the week ended August 30.

Car loadings for the week ended August 30 were heavier than for the preceding week but still considerably below the corresponding week of the two preceding years.

CAR LOADINGS

	Total	Miscellaneous	L. C. L.	Other
Week ended August 30	984,504	385,041	239,175	560,295
Preceding week	940,519	367,279	236,193	536,947
Corresponding week, 1929	1,162,100	468,411	266,713	426,943
Corresponding week, 1928	1,116,711	344,856	163,138	408,419

Truck Crop Markets

Shipments of apples and peaches increased sharply during the week ended September 6, according to the U. S. Market News Service, but the peaches were nearly all California fruit and many were going to canneries.

Total shipments of 32 fruits and vegetables increased to 22,675 cars and were heavier than a year ago.

CARLOT SHIPMENTS

Commodity	Aug. 31- 1930	Aug. 1-7 1930	Sept. 1-7 1929	Total this season to Sept. 6	Total last season to Sept. 7	Total last season
Apples, total	3,295	788	1,820	7,674	8,157	102,881
Eastern states	720	497	1,433	4,579	6,205	51,182
Western states	375	299	397	3,134	1,862	51,578
Cabbage	449	447	330	18,478	25,106	44,114
Carrots	88	65	54	9,791	9,171	12,141
Cauliflower	556	238	169	668	533	9,548
Cucumbers	180	150	142	6,735	6,978	7,489
Green peas:						
Domestic	108	172	61	6,181	4,873	5,197
Imports	11	8	0	14	3	11
Mixed deciduous fruit	479	515	420	4,417	8,867	3,197
Mixed vegetables	552	386	339	23,300	25,100	32,450
Peaches	4,917	3,910	2,247	34,333	29,168	35,151
Pears	2,247	2,120	1,540	15,195	10,632	21,146
Plums and prunes	526	723	316	6,842	3,497	6,046
String beans	25	22	28	8,982	7,499	8,641
Tomatoes	638	471	663	24,508	20,651	32,201